4:Fleure S-5 (no date)1936 EDI Rumania EDI

Plate 1

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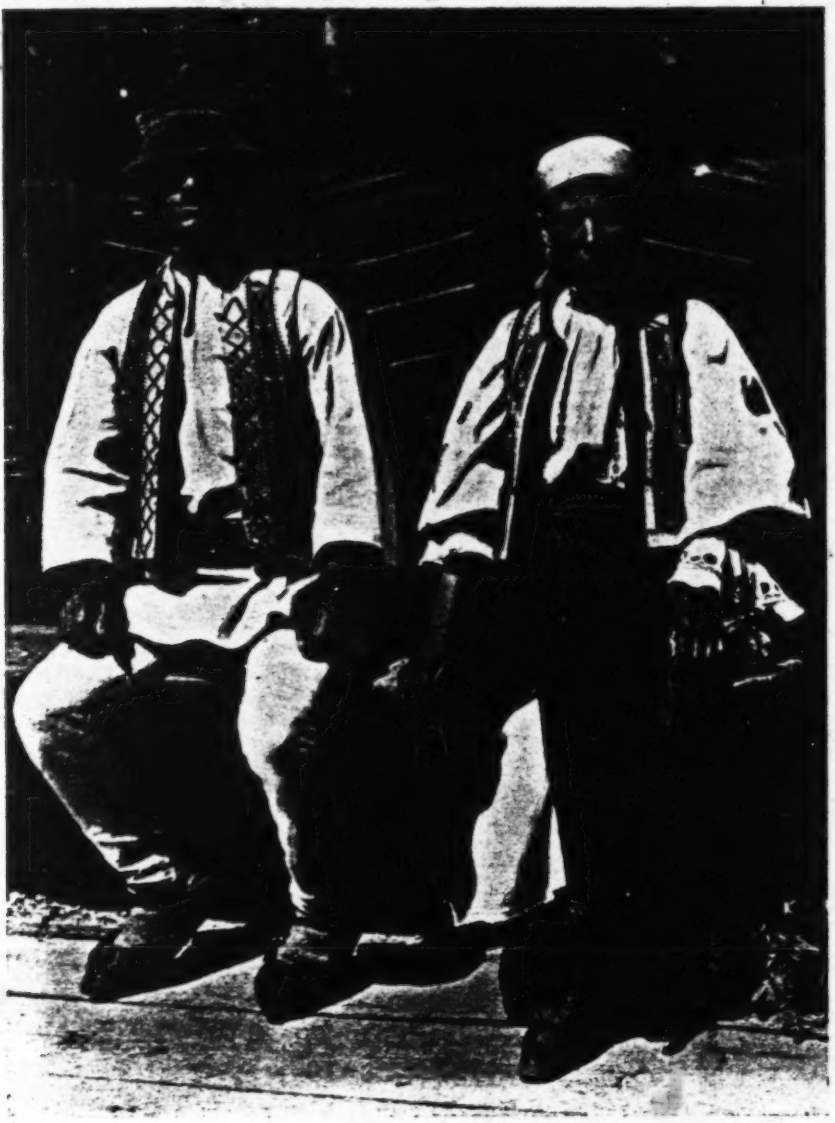

Roumanian peasants in national costume at the fair at Borsec. The man is wearing trousers of thick, home-woven material and home-made shoes, whilst the woman is wearing modern button boots. The coats are of sheepskin embroidered with coloured wool.

Photo: H. J. Howard.

facing page 13

142 PLATE IV
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Our shepherd guide down mountain side to Paltinis, on journey from Borsec to Vatra Dornei. He was milking sheep at a "stâna."
Photo: H. J. Howard.

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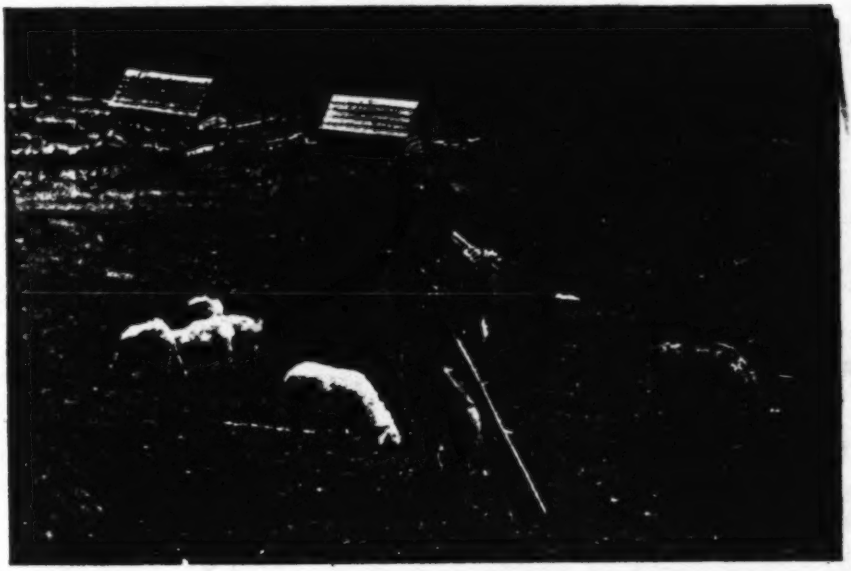

A mountain shepherd boy playing his wooden pipe near "stâna"—seen on journey to Paltinis.
Photo: H. J. Howard

[Facing page 25]

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PLATE VI

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A group of Corbu children. The girls are Roumanians, the boys Gipsies, the broad-headedness of the former contrasting markedly with the narrow-headedness of the latter. *Photo: R. A. Feilden.*

A group of peasants at the Borsec Fair. The girl in the foreground is a Szekler, her costume contrasting with those of the Roumanian women behind. *Photo: Miss M. Odde.*

[facing page 45]

242 A MARKED FEATURE is the comparative absence of chimneys.
374 The cooking is done in an outhouse, no doubt to minimise the risk of fire, but the dwelling house is generally heated by a stove, the smoke from which passes up through the ceiling in an iron pipe and then escapes into the open air through holes cut in the gable ends or, in the case of a hipped roof, through a small louvre.

345 THE OUTHOUSES are for the most part simple structures and call for no special comment.

511 CLEANLINESS and simplicity are the keynotes of the domestic economy. Household effects are kept down to a minimum, but upon their manufacture an enormous amount of time and skill is lavished, especially in the case of textiles. The skilfully-woven designs on the tapestries and pillows shown Plate XVI are an illustration of such effort.

POPULATION.

161 ACCORDING to the 1930 census Corbu had a population of
563 1,563, distributed among 358 households. The majority of the inhabitants are, of course, Roumanians, for the commune lies right on the fringe of the Szekler country. In spite of having lived in close association with the Roumanians for many generations, however, the Szeklers are easily distinguished by their dress, their physical type (though this is by no means an infallible guide), their adherence to Roman Catholicism, and, of course, their language. Although culturally there is an appreciable difference between the Roumanian and Szekler peasantry, there is to-day an even wider gap between these folk and the Tsiganes or Gipsies who form a much smaller, though very interesting, minority.
142 Generally speaking, the Roumanians contribute a dark, and the Szeklers a fair, element to the broad-headed population, whereas the Gipsies are for the most part distinctly long-headed and very dark. There is an equally well-marked difference on economic grounds, for both Roumanians and Szeklers are essentially peasants, whereas the Gipsy, being landless, is compelled to seek a livelihood by trading, unless he be either smith or musician, following the traditional pursuits of his forbears (see Plate VI).

342 THE HOUSES occupied by Gipsies, while resembling in style
563 those of the peasants, can usually be recognised by the

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PLATE XIII

A Corbu "stâna" occupied by transhumant flocks during the summer season. A deforested portion of the mountain 2,000 feet above the village has been set aside for pasturage. The buildings are very simple. The large hut on the left combines the functions of dairy and dwelling house, the smaller sheds in the compounds being used for milking purposes.

Photo: R. A. Pelham.

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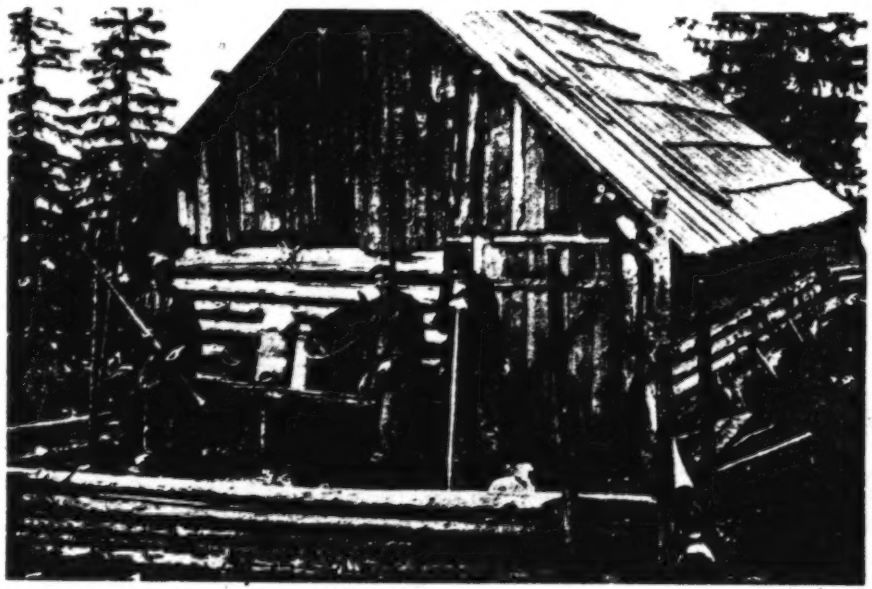

Close-up view of dairy showing adult members of "stâna" with their utensils. The man on the left is holding a horn.

Photo: R. A. Pelham.

[facing page 72]

PLATE XIV

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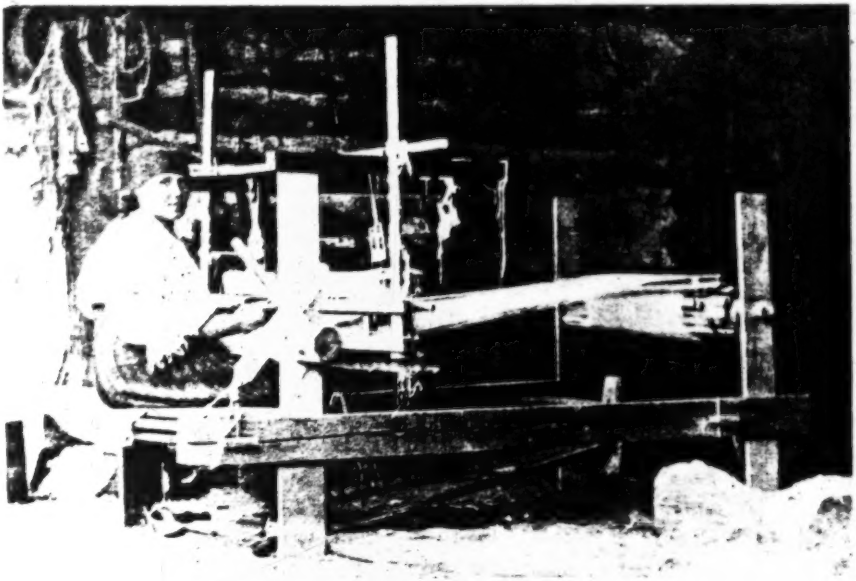
Woman combing wool for spinning at Corbu by drawing it through iron spikes fixed in a wooden bat-like handle. The boy is holding a distaff. *Photo: H. J. Howard.*

[463]



Woman weaving on primitive home-made wooden loom at Corbu. *Photo: H. J. Howard.*

[facing page 73]

164 Rickets[3] is unknown, and difficult labour among peasant women is rare, though puerperal fever is common. In some instances, if there is a midwife, she is shared by several [847] villages. A law has recently been passed forbidding attempts at abortion, but it is not strictly enforced. There are a good many infant deaths. Maternal morbidity is not high, in ● [142] spite of the prevalence of puerperal fever. The women as a whole are robust, of good physique and inured to hardship. [757] The French treatment of sepsis by induced (turpentine) abscess is common and is found to be very successful, the fever running its course in 7-8 days, with low mortality rate. [853] Children are breast-fed, feeding bottles being unknown. The feeding continues until the age of one year or longer. Infantile paralysis is unknown in this district, though it does occur in other parts of the country. Rheumatism and arthritis are common.

743 752 A SMALL operating theatre is attached to the hospital[1] for emergency cases like suppurating appendices and ruptured hernia, other cases being sent to the hospitals in larger towns. Small surgical operations are also performed. The table is convenient, in that it can tilt at any angle from head to foot, but it cannot be lowered or raised at will. The only light is a small electric globe high up in the ceiling, with no facilities for lowering. Operations are, however, mostly done in daylight. If necessary, lamps or even candles are requisitioned. A small room for sterilising purposes opens off the theatre.

743 164 THE PAVILION for infectious cases is situated about twenty feet from the main building, in close proximity to the staff house and kitchen. Its beds were empty at the moment of inspection. Scarlet fever is the most common epidemic in this vicinity, and the beds were full one month ago. Epidemics of dysentery and typhoid also occur. Typhus is not known here, though frequent in Bessarabia. Diphtheria is fairly common.

759 THERE[2] ARE a medical doctor and a surgeon in attendance, the latter being only part-time.

743 THE HOME for the incurables[2] was next visited. It is a handsome villa, situated near the main street, but farther from the centre of the town. As before stated, it is a branch of the nerve clinic in Bucharest, and is under the supervision of

1 [in Curtea De Arges -- Analyst]